

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) An electrical connector comprising:

a housing having a mating end and a wire receiving end, said wire receiving end configured to receive a terminal contact joined to a wire; and

a cover provided on said wire receiving end of said housing, said cover including a ridge on an interior surface thereof to stabilize said cover on said housing; and

a connector position assurance element (CPA) slidably received in a channel on said cover and movable between a pre-staged position and a staged position, said CPA engaging a connector latch on said housing to assure that a mating connector is fully mated to the connector when said CPA is in said staged position.

2. (Original) The connector of Claim 1, wherein said ridge interferes with said wire receiving end of said housing to stabilize said cover on said housing.

3. (Original) The connector of Claim 1, wherein said cover includes a side wall, said side wall having a recess on an interior surface thereof, said recess configured to receive a cover latch on said housing to secure said cover to said wire receiving end of said housing.

4. (Original) The connector of Claim 1, wherein said cover flexes about said ridge when said cover is mounted on said housing.

5. (Original) The connector of Claim 1, wherein said cover includes a keying slot to orient said cover relative to said housing.

6. (Original) The connector of Claim 1, wherein said CPA includes a latch beam having a latch element thereon, said latch element engaging a step in said channel to latch said CPA to said cover.

7. (Original) The connector of Claim 1, wherein said CPA includes a stop block that engages a connector latch on said housing to assure that a mated connector remains joined to the connector.

8. (Currently amended) The connector of Claim 1, wherein said cover includes a CPA stop positioned in said channel ~~that engages a includes~~ to engage a stop member on said CPA to retain said CPA in said channel.

9. (Original) The connector of Claim 1, wherein said CPA includes a platform, and a latch beam, and a gap therebetween, said latch beam being deflected into said gap when said CPA is moved from said pre-staged position to said staged position.

10. (Original) An electrical connector comprising:

a housing having a mating end and a wire receiving end, said wire receiving end configured to receive a terminal contact joined to a wire;

a cover provided on said wire receiving end of said housing; and

a connector position assurance element (CPA) slidably received in a channel on said cover, said CPA comprising:

a platform; and

a latch beam having a first end oriented toward said mating end and a second end oriented toward said wire receiving end, said first and second ends both being joined to said platform, said latch beam configured to engage said channel to latch said CPA to said cover.

11. (Original) The connector of Claim 10 wherein said CPA further includes a latch element positioned on said latch beam and configured to engage a step in said channel to latch said CPA to said cover.

12. (Original) The connector of Claim 10, wherein said CPA includes a stop block that engages a connector latch on said housing to assure that a mated connector remains joined to the connector.

13. (Currently amended) The connector of Claim 10, wherein said cover includes a CPA stop positioned in said channel ~~that engages a~~ includes to engage a stop member on said CPA to retain said CPA in said channel.

14. (Original) The connector of Claim 10, wherein said CPA further includes a gap between said platform and said latch beam, said latch beam being deflected into said gap when said CPA is moved from a pre-staged position to a staged position.

15. (Original) The connector of Claim 10, wherein said cover includes a ridge on an interior surface thereof that interferes with said wire receiving end of said housing to stabilize said cover on said housing.

16. (Original) The connector of Claim 10, wherein said cover flexes about a ridge on an interior surface of said cover when said cover is mounted on said housing.

17. (Original) An electrical connector comprising:

a housing having a mating end and a wire receiving end, said wire receiving end configured to receive a terminal contact joined to a wire; and

a cover provided on said wire receiving end of said housing, said cover including a ridge on an interior surface thereof to stabilize said cover on said housing; and

a connector position assurance element (CPA) slidably received in a channel on said cover and movable between a pre-staged position and a staged position, said CPA comprising an alignment slot that receives a guide bar on said housing to align said CPA with said housing.

18. (Original) The connector of Claim 17, wherein said CPA further comprises:

a platform; and

a latch beam having a first end oriented toward said mating end and a second end oriented toward said wire receiving end, said first and second ends both being joined to said platform, said latch beam configured to engage said channel to latch said CPA to said cover.

19. (Original) The connector of Claim 17, wherein said cover flexes about said ridge when said cover is mounted on said housing.

20. (Original) The connector of Claim 17, wherein said CPA includes a stop block that engages a connector latch on said housing to assure that a mated connector remains joined to the connector.